

President's Report AGM 5 May 2021

Good morning U3A Members

Thank you for being here today. What a challenging year we have faced worldwide with the many restrictions Covid 19 has placed on all our lives. Repercussions were felt in our U3A organisation which saw a drop-off in group numbers and activity although many groups found ways to continue during lockdown through the mediums of Zoom and Skype.

Now, a year on, we have 41 active groups with others in the planning stage for your enjoyment and education. Special thanks must go to Steven Shaw for his most capable monitoring and coordination of the study groups..

Another vote of thanks to David Wright who has led the rebuilding and launching of a new website from the remnants of the old. Our site is now stronger and more secure. Gordon Suddaby has been instrumental in the organisation of our excellent speakers. You will remember some: Vicky and Tom Taylor, Nathan Fa'avae and Ray Salisbury.

Trevor Lewis must be thanked for his sterling work as editor of the newsletter. The behind-the-scenes team is the backbone of the committee: Bill Brett our secretary, Allison Robertson our treasurer, Wendy Cornish our membership secretary aided by Anne White the new member liaison person. Rounding off the team are Nan Turner as publicity person and Paul Lunberg - immediate past president and asset manager.

I have been president for 10 months as our AGM in 2020 was 22 July due to lockdown. During this time I have been counting my blessings - the blessings of a person who has such a strong and capable team aiding and assisting in every field of our organisation.

The present committee has elected to continue for the 2021 - 2022 year. For this I am thankful. We have built up a strong bond - there is definite camaraderie and trust! Trust that each committee member does his or her job without censure or close scrutiny knowing that the team is there to help and advise if needs be, I sing their praises!

Another sincere vote of thanks must go to the many of you here today who are group convenors. Without your interested and caring shepherding of your "flock" there would not be a Nelson U3A as we know it.

Finally, to members of U3A. Thank you for your continued friendship and support. As well as attending the various interest groups I encourage you to consider starting a new group for fellow interested parties.

May the good ship U3A continue on a safe and prosperous voyage.

David Turner

