

President's Report AGM 4 May 2022

Good morning U3A Members

I don't know if I should begin by singing Frank Sinatra's 'My Way' - " And now the end is near..... But that would alarm and frighten you!

I will start though by thanking you for being here today. Finally we have managed to have a U3A Public Meeting - the first since the middle of last year. Covid 19 and its variants have caused grief world-wide as we know. Your perseverance and faith in U3A has been heartening.

The service your Committee members do on members' behalf must be recognised. Each person calmly and efficiently carries out his/her duties faithfully. For that I am grateful as this has made my job so much easier knowing I have had a fantastic team working alongside me. I am so thankful for their support.

Steven Shaw, your Study Group Coordinator, has been exemplary in his role.

The behind-the-scenes work that David Wright does in monitoring and strengthening our website is first-class and I thank Andrew Mason for agreeing to assist David in his role.

Gordon Suddaby, also stepping down today, has organised some brilliant speakers over his time. I especially remember Richard Griffin at our last AGM who ruffled a few feathers with his witty and searching comments about our politicians past and present.

The regular newsletter edited by Trevor Lewis is informative, often humorous and always well-presented.

I thank Nan Turner (Publicity) and Anne White (New Members Welfare) for excellence in their roles.

Further praise must go to Bill Brett, our secretary, Allison Robertson our Treasurer, Wendy Cornish, Membership Secretary and incoming president and Paul Lunberg, Immediate Past President. Without the help, advice and wisdom from these four people I doubt whether I would have survived in the role of president.

My thanks extend to many of you here today who are group convenors. You care and guide those who work with you.

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

I step down from my role knowing that you will be well served by Wendy Cornish and the new committee.

Le roi est mort, vive la reine!