U3A PEGASUS BULLETIN

No 11 February 2024

Update from President Jorgen

First of all a big welcome to our new members. I hope you will enjoy your membership.
You can approach any of the committee members with concerns or ideas or to indicate your willingness to play an active role in the day-to-day running of U3A. Leading an organisation is a wonderful albeit challenging job. At the committee level, you try to have robust discussions and encourage creativity. Some of the ideas reach maturity, and some never see the light of day. When jumping into the role of chair at the AGM, you have to forget your personal preferences and give everyone the chance to express their opinion. This is the Supreme Court. Styles differ. I have been at meetings where you had the feeling that any challenge to proposals would label you as a rebel without a cause.
I want to express my gratitude to the membership for engaging with the issues at our AGM. Strong opinions were aired, discussions were passionate and relevant and clear decisions made. This is not the time to be sad if the vote didn't go your way nor the time to rejoice that your point of view prevailed. It is a time to celebrate our discussions and engagement within U3A. Your willingness to participate in the organisation was demonstrated by a staggering 111 people taking the time to respond to our recent survey. Thank you so much for your contributions. I will present the key findings at our March meeting. It will provide additional guidance for our committee as we navigate our way through 2024.

Jorgen

Reminder!

Your subscription is due now.

Message from our Treasurer Sue Beardsley

Please pay $30 to our bank account at the ANZ for U3A Pegasus 01-0811-0943061-00
Please put the surname and first initial plus Sub24 in the details.
We have 33 people on our waiting list so please let us know if you do not wish to continue your membership.

>>

February Guest Speaker

Derek McCullough was our guest speaker following the AGM and what a great talk he gave, reminiscing about the many events he organized over more than a few decades. He called his talk 'An Eventful Life' and it surely has been.
He started as a surf event organizer in Nelson aged only 14 and from there graduated to managing several events at Lancaster Park/Jade Stadium including one memorable time when both rugby and cricket were using the same ground. Managing the expectations of promotors and sponsors was a huge learning curve. Another sponsored event was a Custard Olympics with an extensive video clip and TV presenter Angela D'Audney, often referred to as New Zealand's 'first lady of broadcasting.'
There were several events, that as Derek explained, wouldn't be permitted now mainly due to health and safety and workplace laws. However, seeing a high wire attached from Ridges Hotel to the 15th floor of the Clarendon with various daring acts performed, was a reminder of what the city looked like before the earthquakes.

>>