



A Message from the President

Yesterday, for the first time, the U3A Hobart management committee had a Zoom assisted meeting.

The aim was to take stock and to try and anticipate how we will function in the months ahead. The uncertain answer to that question will be crafted not only by our own planning but also by the directions and actions of other agencies. These include the Tasmanian and Federal governments as well as the University of Tasmania.

We are encouraged by the falling numbers of new Coronavirus cases in Australia. Nevertheless, we believe we are months away from being able to run face to face classes in the Philip Smith Centre. This cannot happen until the meeting in large groups with no social distancing is allowed. Even then, we must consider the fact that currently 97 per cent of Coronavirus deaths in Australia have been in the over 60 age group.

We, therefore, decided in Term Two there will be no classes in the Philip Smith Centre. When we do start face to face classes again, with luck in Term Three, we will run, with minor adjustments, our advertised Term One program.

We also established a working party of our more tech savvy members to investigate alternative ways of delivering classes. It is hoped they will be able to share their findings in what will be a skinny newsletter in May.

I am sure, like me, many of you miss not being able to attend U3A classes but on my daily walks, I have encountered (at a safe distance) a number of U3A Hobart members and found them to be in good spirits. I know it is only a small sample but hope it is a true reflection of how you are faring in these interesting and difficult times.

Warm regards,

John Green
U3A Hobart

Tuesday 21 April 2020