Greetings from our President ..
Spring is just around the corner and our finances are in good stead, both of which are nice to know.

With the Winter Solstice behind, no doubt you too have had your senses tickled by the vibrant yellow daffodils and fragrant jonquil abundant in our delightful neighbourhood. I eagerly await the multi-coloured freesia perfumery to emerge and of course more U3A activities.

We have 360 members, variously attending 37 groups, many with waiting lists. That’s the biggest U3A in The Bay by far, but let’s not be complacent, because things have a habit of changing. So keep spreading the word about U3A and tell prospective members that they are welcome to attend any group a couple of times as a guest, prior to joining .. assuming there is room.

I wonder if you are a little like me and appreciate a reminder? How about reporting those vigorous (invasive) plants; reflect on all the wonderful contributions that other people make to our lives. And then make a point of thanking them.

So perhaps this is a fitting saying: “When you’re nice to people, they want to be nice back to you.” -- Jack Canfield

Best wishes, Ross McLean, Aug 2018
Here are some of the reports and information from our Group Convenors.

Writing for Grandchildren Grp1 - Mary J Percy, Convenor

We are called Writing For Your Grandchildren, but that doesn't mean we have to write specifically for grandchildren.

We are writing to record and capture times in our past,

We may write about present day happenings.

We write in poetry, prose, letter form, third person, to posed questions and randomly given words.

We share our stories. Offer suggestions and encouragement.

Several of us have published work and are keen to do more.

We reminisce and share lots of laughs over a cup of tea or coffee.

Yes it would be nice to meet a couple of new members.

If anyone would like to join this happy group, please contact Trish our Secretary for more information.

Travel Group - Pat Burden, Convenor

We are a happy band of 17 members at present, all avid travel enthusiasts who enjoy meetings at each other’s homes where possible, although outside venues are used from time to time. We always enjoy our meetings, with interesting topics from members’ travel experiences, as well as outside speakers, and have had a wide variety of travel talks so far this year. Amongst our travel experiences, we have enjoyed Antarctica, Borneo, a couple of talks on Australia, both from entirely different perspectives, and various cruising experiences. (One of our members is a habitual cruiser!)

Coming up soon is a talk by a gemmologist, showing us her specimens and telling us where they came from, which should prove very interesting and enjoyable.

We could accept 3 more members to this happy group of travellers, please contact Trish if you wish to join in.

Geography Group - Susan Fitzgerald - Co-Convenor

The Geography group continues to flourish. We do have a full complement of 13 members, so there are no vacancies at the moment.

All members make presentations throughout the year and we always have a Geography quiz in November. We finish the year with a shared luncheon.

This year we have had subjects as diverse as Brazil, Easter Island, Lake Baikal, Micronesia and the North American great lakes.

Next year we hope to study countries bisected by the Tropic of Cancer.
Photography Group - Sheila Bowden, Convenor

Our usual core group of photographers continue to produce work that surprises me and we all make progress in different ways though I must admit it is sometimes hard work breaking down barriers when new ideas are introduced but everyone is also constantly surprised by what they achieve when they try them out so a typical learning situation is usually met and conquered by all of us.

We have welcomed some new members this year but there is now room for a couple more to join. The learning support within our group takes place so some commitment is necessary if progress and understanding are desired so maybe a few new faces will take up the challenge of photography with a difference.

Rummikub Group - Val Galbraith, Convenor

Rummikub is going along well. Winter ailments are keeping some of our players at home – but we continue to enjoy our Friday afternoon games. We had three new members join us this year but there is still room for anyone else who would like to come along.

Lunch Group No.1 - Joyce Paton, Convenor

Has fourteen members and can accept new ones. We meet at cafes in and around Havelock North, preferably where there is little background noise! We always find plenty to chat about and enjoy each others’ company.

Lunch Group No. 3 - Joan Sye, Convenor

Our group has tickled our taste buds at a variety of eating establishments including wineries and cafes, our most recent was a visit to Bollywood in Hastings for a tasty curry. The staff were thrilled to host our happy group and took a photo to put on Facebook. There are 26 members not all of whom can attend each time. Feedback is positive as we sample what Hawke's Bay has to offer.

Lunch Group2 - Trish Loye, Convenor

We are a mixed group who enjoy going to different restaurants and cafes for lunch in Havelock North, Hastings and occasionally Napier. Our recent visit was to Vidal's Restaurant where we celebrated a member's 80th birthday and a farewell to Vidal's in their last month of trading. They have since closed their operation in Hastings after over a 100 years of service to our community and will be greatly missed as a venue.

If you wish to enquire about vacancies in any group, please contact our Secretary, Trish Loye Phone: 878 5920 or Email: pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz

U3A Manawatu have some interesting items in their Newsletter which can be viewed on their website if any of our members are interested. Go to - www.u3am.blogspot.co.nz.
Our next General Meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd August 2018 at the Havelock North Function Centre, Te Mata Road, Havelock North commencing at the usual time of 10 am. Members and friends are all welcome to attend with just $10.00 payable at the door as you arrive in order to cover our costs of morning tea and room hire.

We are fortunate to have obtained the services of Henare O'Keefe to give a presentation and talk on his life and experiences.

**ROLES:**

- Flaxmere Councillor, Hastings District Council
- Ambassador for Hastings
- International motivational speaker
- Hip Hop Cop
- Chairman, Te Aranga o Heretaunga Marae
- New Zealand’s Community Hero 2012
- Youth justice coordinator
- Books In Homes ambassador

Henare is a humble, loving and caring man of the people proactively working against violence. He has a self-driven, hands-on approach that spearheads practical initiatives to build community, especially in disadvantaged areas; reversing negative stereotypes; all with a can-do energy and a solid belief in the goodness of people.

Henare O'Keefe is a big man with an even bigger heart. It is a heart filled with love for the afflicted, downtrodden and the needy. His approach to those in trouble is to surround them with love and to give them the support to make positive changes in their own lives.

Henare ticks all the boxes when it comes to empowering individuals, building communities and championing social growth. He does this by lobbying central government over social housing needs in his community, as well as his late-night operation of mobile BBQ Tunu Tunu and the way he battles family violence head on.

He and his wife Pam have fostered more than 200 children over a period of 17 years. He had a simple way of welcoming a new child into the home, show them love. Many of these children have gone on to achieve their goals and aspirations, but there was one little boy from a Havelock North tinny house who has found greatness. Phillip Rhodes is now a world renowned opera singer and he credits his success to the stable and loving home Henare and Pam gave him.
U3A Havelock North

August General Meeting and Coffee Morning
to be held at the Havelock North Function Centre

Thursday 23rd August 2018 at 10.00 am

Our speaker will be

*Henare O'Keefe, QSM, J.P*
(Ngāti Porou/Ngāti Kahunguna/Irish)

$10.00 per person payable at the door

Includes morning tea or coffee
Spot raffle prizes for members.

Please do let Trish Loye know before 21st August if you are coming along.

Phone: 878 5920

Email: pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz

Don't forget - the caterers need our numbers so if you are coming along, please ring or email our Secretary (Trish Loye) by Tuesday 21st August to advise of your attendance.

If you find you are unable to attend once registered, PLEASE advise Trish by Wednesday night or before 9am Thursday morning so as we can adjust the numbers with the caterers. Your co-operation on this is very much appreciated.
DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

22nd November 2018 (Thursday) - Our Christmas General Meeting. An exciting speaker is being arranged and should make for an interesting end to the year.

14th February 2019 (Thursday) - Will be our Annual General Meeting with election of officers for the 2019 year.

***** PRESIDENT REQUIRED *****

Under the terms of our Constitution our President can only serve three years and we need to elect a new President for the 2019 year. Can you all please give consideration to finding a replacement for Ross McLean, from your group members or friends who would like to consider this position within our U3A. Please contact Trish with your suggestions or nominations. As a committee we all work together, so this is not an onerous or difficult position.

Our committee for 2018

Ross McLean (President)......877 7502 ......... ross@neptuneproducts.co.nz
Trish Loye (Secretary) ........ 878 5920 ........pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz
Jennifer Hartley (Treasurer).873 7970.........mjenhartley@gmail.com

Eileen Harris .................... 870 1649.......... eileenequest@gmail.com
Joy Palmer ......................... 870 3951......... joy.palmer@xtra.co.nz
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Jenny Setford...................... 870 1195........ swansong@nowmail.co.nz