



March 2017

www.u3abayofislands.wordpress.com

U3A Bay of Islands, PO Box 833, Kerikeri 0245

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From the Chair

Hello everybody,

It's nice to see the green returning to the Bay of Islands, just in time for St Patrick's Day.

We had the Monday Poetry for Pleasure group last week and the theme was Romance, as it was held on the day before Valentine's Day. There were poems of course from Byron, Wordsworth and Shakespeare, but also from Amy Lowell, a new American poet for me who was from the Imagist movement and whose descriptions are quite vivid.



I'd like to share with you some poetry from Liverpoolian poet Roger McGough on courtship:

“Not for her potatoes
and puddings made of rice
She takes carbohydrates
Like God takes advice
A surfeit of ambition
Is her particular vice
Valerie fondles lovers
like a mousetrap fondles mice”

The Singing for Fun group would have had many romantic songs to choose from, including Cole Porter's 1930 song "Let's Do It" (Let's Fall in Love).

Two of the existing groups mentioned there but if you have ideas for new groups please contact Margaret Rasmussen to discuss your ideas with her.

Although the AGM is not until Monday June 26th it will come round soon enough and we require members for the committee so please give it some thought.

Have an interesting March in your various groups.

Cheers,
Sue Robertson

February General Meeting

As the February General Meeting has not yet taken place at the time of publishing this Newsletter, we shall have a report on the meeting in our April edition.

Treasurer's Report

The new financial year is fast approaching and as this is my first time round in receiving subscriptions (subs) on a large scale, just a few words from me in anticipation.

I have recently moved our banking to be totally online.

This means the preferred way to receive your subs would be using online banking, details below.

Online payment to **Account: 02 0352 0020910 000 Payee account: U3A BOI** (please include your surname, first name and the word "sub" as a reference).

The other method would be by cheque payable to "U3A BOI" either by post to the address below including your name in block capitals on the reverse of the cheque or by hand at the April General Meeting.

The Treasurer, U3A Bay of Islands, P.O. Box 833, Kerikeri 0245

If you choose to pay by cash probably the April General Meeting would be best time and place to make the payment. Please place the cash in an envelope with your full name on the outside. Just as a reminder, our April General Meeting will be held on **Monday 24 April**.

I'll conclude this little reminder with a quote from my predecessor, "The best \$20 worth in the country."

Stuart Leitch, Treasurer

2016 - 2017 Committee			
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Group News

Sue Robertson has resigned as facilitator of the **Kerikeri Local History** group because of her other commitments. We would like to thank Sue for all her hard work in organising many interesting and enjoyable trips to investigate areas of local historical interest. We are delighted that Stuart Park has agreed to facilitate the group after the February meeting. Stuart will be assisted by Christine Cronshaw. This group is now full.

New Groups

Games to Stretch the Mind Tom Everitt has very kindly offered to facilitate a new group who will meet to enjoy playing games which, depending on the interests of members, may include board games, card games or puzzles. Some members may enjoy working together to solve puzzles such as cryptic crosswords. Others may like to learn a new game from members who have played before. This will be a great group to be in over the winter months when outdoor activities are less attractive. The group will meet at Cherry Park House, Landing Road, Kerikeri, probably in the afternoon of the second Friday of the month. Please let me know if you are interested and also please tell me the board games or puzzles you could bring along to share.

Technology and Physical Science – New Developments

I am pleased to advise that we have enough members interested in this new group for the group to go ahead. There are still some spaces available. The group will have its first session on the second Wednesday in April at 2.00 pm at the home of our facilitator, Cam McNicol. This group will look at aspects and issues relating to technology and physical science. Members will research and discuss such topics as:

- * solar panels and other alternative energy sources;
- * electric cars;
- * drones - the rapid developments so far and those proposed for the future;
- * technological developments, especially computer-based, and their uses in many areas such as health, wearable devices, education, and more;
- * other areas of interest suggested by members of the group.

East to West, led by Pam Jenkins and hosted by Margaret Lindsay, will start on Wednesday 1 March. This fascinating series of DVDs charts the birth of a flourishing civilisation in the Middle East and its dynamic influence on the West. There are two or three spaces in this group.

If you are interested in these new groups, please contact me - *Margaret Rasmussen* - ras1@clear.net.nz or 09 402 8949

Featured Groups

Are you enthusiastic about your U3A group? Would you like to share with others what makes your group special? This is a call out to all members to give us a small update on what your group is up to. We are looking for pictures and stories (not just from group Facilitators, who are already quite busy, but from other members as well). Here are a few things others might want to know to get your creativity started.

What made you join the group?

What topic have you found the most interesting to date?

What interesting, exciting, lovely places have you visited as a group?

How has participating in this group changed your life?

Remember we are always in need of photos taken during group meetings, both for the Newsletter and for the Website (photos will be sent to Margaret Rasmussen). The photos do not have to be masterpieces! Wrinkles and wry looks readily accepted (none of us are twenty year old pin-ups). Please make sure you have the permission of the people in the photo to be published.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Catherine Gossage

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**“Every day I walk for 30 minutes, I drink 8 glasses
of water, and I eat 5 fruits and vegetables...
BUT I'M STILL GETTING OLDER!”**