



Hastings Inc.



May Newsletter 2022

Pam's Burble:

"Life is much better with good friends, lots of interesting things to do, and continuing opportunities use their brains in pursuit of new interests or goals."

This quote sums up U3A in a short sentence. I'm sure we can all identify with these sentiments.

I must say I've kept a very low profile during the last few months...and I'm pleased to say that I've kept well during that time. Although I have resorted to RATS tests from time to time, I have managed to keep healthy and well.. So far so good.

I do hope that is the case for all of you too, and if not, I wish a quick and full recovery. Back to "normal!"

My low profile took me on several excursions around and about Hawkes Bay...I spent a stunning day out at Waimarama on a week day. Very few people on the beach that day although the weather was stunning. On the way I stopped at the Maraetotara Falls and old Havelock North power station. Such beautiful surroundings and easy track to follow. The little Piwakawaka fluttering very close by and Tui darting in the trees nearby.

I must say the rainfall we have had during the last few months has produced wonderful green hills..... not often seen at this time of year. I drove rather slowly all the way out, (yes, there were a few times I pulled over to let faster ones through) to soak up the splendour of each moment, of each tiny miracle, to marvel at the colours, the wide open spaces, the

lack of cars and the overall beauty we have right at our door step. I arrived at the beach in a much laid back and mellow state of mind.

It is so easy to find this peace and calm in Hawkes Bay. It only takes minutes to leave the seemingly hustle and bustle (after living in Auckland where it seemed to take forever) to find some sense and serenity.

So many favourite places.....so many tiny miracles out there waiting to be noticed!!!

All the Best

Pam

Mid winter lunch:

Tuesday July 12th at noon at Clubs Hastings.

Please note the date in your diary now.

More information to follow in the next newsletter.

Special Interest Group News

Slow Stitch Group: With Pam:

We are making great progress.

We find we are excellent at slow stitching and fast at chatting!!

Our last get together was on Easter Monday and we managed stitching, chatting, having coffee and eating Hot cross buns..... great multi-tasking going on!

Here is a peep at some of our work.



Book discussion group: With Karin Riley:

A great group of people and a big pile of books to discuss.

Each person spoke about a book or books they had read in the last month, mainly fiction.

Plenty of discussion ensued and I left with a list of excellent reads...



Bush Walking Group: with Diane Brown

Blowhard Bush:

I my opinion, this was the best walk we have been on with Diane...

- Huge rock formations dating back to the Taupo eruption
- Stunning views of Kaweka Ranges
- Wonderful Lowry Lodge for our sit down picnic lunch.
- Plenty of friendly bird life
- Amazing cobwebs
- Total peace and quiet
- Light and sunny



I haven't been out and about lately so I've been on the phone chatting to a few conveners. Here's a little update.

Exploring Poetry and Heads of State:

with Richard Jennings:

Small and dedicated group of poets. Read and write their own poems... **Amazing**. Also discuss a published poets work.

Heads of State: The UK Prime Ministers will be done and dusted by the end of the year....

Depending on how long Boris manages to hang in there!!! It's been 2 years in the exploring!!! These groups have been pumping for about seven years now... **Wow**

Italian:

With Christine Gould

Six interested and committed participants... This group has been functioning since 2006 and most of the participants have been involved since then. Olive is part of this group and is about to celebrate her 101st birthday... **Amazing.....**

Astronomy: with Arthur Birks:

Due to COVID the group has not been able to meet for a few months. Participants are really looking forward to getting together again...I'm sure this will happen very soon. It's a very popular group.

Classical Music and Opera: With Margaret Pack:

A small and passionate group of people for both of these groups. Always thoroughly enjoy the music, the friendship and camaraderie.

NEW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

te reo introductory gathering:

Friday 13th May, at 2pm

Paihau Solomon (Julie Solomon's brother in law) has kindly offered to host an introductory gathering at his home to korero about how we can create a special interest group to encourage further learning by listening, understanding, contributing, researching and participating in discussion and relevant excursions regarding te reo and tikanga.

I am really excited about this opportunity and am looking forward to an interesting and informative unfolding of a new special interest group.

Please call me quickly if you are keen to be part of this group. Numbers will be limited. I will have the address of the venue soon.

Committee Members:

Past President: Shirley Hapuku 8768181

Treasurer: Hazel Sturm 8786672

Membership: Pamela Lisamore 8762229

Almoner: Karin Riley 8774163

Faye Alexander 021 365567

Secretary: Narelle de Frere 8703634

Catering: Diane Brown 8765467

President: Pam de Frere 021 632889

Newsletter: Pam de Frere

Hillary Bullock 021 02312400

That's my lot for now.... Thanks for the feedback and your help in creating these newsletters. If you have information, please email me so we can print it in our next newsletter.

My quote for today:

**Life is a series of tiny miracles,
Notice them.**

I look forward to seeing you very soon