

HAVELOCK NORTH



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Secretary: Trish Loye 878 5920 pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz
Treasurer: Dr Jennifer Hartley 873 7970 mjhartley@gmail.com

Greetings everyone

I have found this year to be exceptional in the extreme. By June we had exceeded the average rainfall for a whole year. In 47 years of living in Havelock North I have not experienced anything quite like it. I have one crop however that has been magnificent in its growth. This I believe is called “weeds”. It is a battle royal to keep them in check.

At our last meeting I gave a presentation on Climate Change and mentioned that warming sea levels would affect the warming of the oceans and ocean currents as well as environmental effects on sea life. However I never envisaged how quickly this would affect the climate. North America, Asia and Europe are experiencing widespread record temperatures, wild fires, and flooding. Today as I write this, thousands of tourists are being evacuated from the Islands of Rhodes and Corfu in the Mediterranean. In Canada New Zealand fire fighters are still helping to fight forest fires that have been burning for weeks. The reason is that the **El Niño** effect is now causing this. (*I have a 20 second video to show you*).

Because we are a geologically young country the unconsolidated sediments on our hillsides are so saturated that they are losing cohesion with underlying bedrock and sliding off it. Housing developments with the remodelling of gullies and streams to quickly remove groundwater must be an important planning procedure. Interestingly my Climate Change presentation has now been given to Rotary and SeniorNet Taradale.

Some Good news. Our advertising and promotions have produced an increase in membership and our association with SeniorNet is benefiting both organisations. I have now visited the four major retirement villages and we now have liaison members there to promote and help their members to join U3A and SeniorNet. Working with retirement villages is something we should encourage for that will promote our endeavours. With SeniorNet, I approached “Summerset in the Vines” and I gave a presentation to the village on “Hacking, phishing and Scams”. This showed how to avoid the dangerous emails and scams now prevalent, and how to create secure passwords. It was well received and we gained membership there as a result.

Finally it was very interesting and exciting to see the arc of beach fires burning the driftwood and slash all along the Napier coast celebrating Matariki. All that was needed was more fireworks in the winter month. It should be an annual event instead of Guy Fawkes.

Best wishes to you all

Norris Kenwright - President, U3A Havelock North 2023

Our next General Meeting will be held on Thursday 24th August 2023

at the Havelock North Function Centre, Te Mata Road, Havelock North commencing at the usual time of 10am. Members and friends are all welcome to attend with just **\$5.00** payable as you arrive in order to cover our costs of morning tea and room hire. This has been subsidised by your committee as the charge would normally be \$11.00 pp.

If you have a Name Badge, please wear it. Contact Trish if you would like a new badge. Thank you.

U3A Havelock North

August General Meeting and Coffee Morning

to be held at the Havelock North Function Centre

Thursday 24th August at 10.00 am

Our speaker will be

Michael Fowler

Hawkes Bay Historian

*Who will give a talk on
Hastings and the legacy of Francis Hicks 1873-1911*

\$5.00 per person payable at the door

Includes morning tea or coffee

Spot raffle prizes for members.

Please do let Trish Loye know before 22nd August if you are coming along.

Phone: 878 5920

Email: pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz

Please note: If you find you are unable to attend once registered, PLEASE advise Trish by Wednesday night or before 9 am Thursday morning so as we can adjust the numbers with the caterers. It is very difficult when we find that we could be 10 or 12 short of the numbers catered for and payment is still required.

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Michael Fowler is a Havelock North chartered accountant turned historian. He has written 15 books since 2005 and hundreds of articles on Hawke's Bay history. He was elected as a Hastings District Councillor in 2022, and has representations in heritage organisations and finance functions. He lives in Havelock North with wife Raewyn and dog Bella.

Do register to come along to our General meeting and enjoy a lovely morning tea, spot raffle prizes and an interesting and informative talk from Michael.

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Some notes from Norris made for his Geology Group on the formation of New Zealand.

Zealandia is composed of a large submerged land mass, part of which is New Zealand that rises above sea level. The Geological Society of America has published a paper saying that “Zealandia” is actually Earth’s Hidden Continent. I



I have created a large presentation (Like my Climate Change topic) for the Geology group. This is the story of how New Zealand was formed by breaking away from ancient Australia, when dinosaurs roamed (as discovered by Joan Wiffen). The formation of the Tasman Sea and for millions of years how NZ was a few islands in a tropical sea. How NZ developed with an ecosystem based on Birds and not mammals. How Coal deposits formed and how our limestone countryside was created. Then the coming of volcanoes and a huge Alpine rift and how we are now dangerously trapped between two colliding continental plates producing earthquakes and faults which will continue.

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Computer group – with Norris Kenwright and Margaret Buckley

This year Margaret and I started with 17 members; we lost three and gained three so we are now “Even Stevens”. We have sent out 50 written tutorials on aspects of windows 10 and explained them on the big screen at the Havelock North Club. It is surprising how Microsoft hides many good features that make computing more interesting and how old versions of programs can often produce better results than newly promoted “Apps”. Also Microsoft tries to direct you to its own programs when there are far better ones produced by experts on the internet. We show our members how to download them safely and how to avoid downloading scams. One important part of our work is to demonstrate OneDrive and Google Drive where you can back up all your precious files and folders in the Cloud. Then they are never lost so that you can always download them to a new device if your computer fails.



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We have a new group to commence in November if there is enough interest.

Planes, Trains & Automobiles – with Peter Watt

Peter has proposed a new and exciting group to commence in November on the 3rd Friday at 10am (17th Nov). He will explore some of the exciting engineering, science and technology achievements which shape our living in today’s world. The mix will include monthly meetings and informal presentations interspersed with field trips to visit and learn about engineering and mechanical items of interest in the Bay. Plus, of course, a stop for good coffee along the way during field trips.

Just some of the intriguing projects we’ll look at – new, ever-improving battery technologies, the significance of Artificial Intelligent (AI), the latest in aero-space developments, and the magnificent Millau Viaduct in the South of France.

Expressions of interest to the Secretary, Trish Loye would be appreciated

Ph: 878 5920 or pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz



We are always looking for ideas for new groups and of course – Group Leaders to run them. Do you have a friend? Neighbour? Family member? Who would be interested in starting new interest groups. Some of the topics suggested are: Science Group. Countries of the World Group. DIY Group - perhaps a discussion group on tips for projects. Language Groups – do you speak French? Spanish? and would like to converse with like-minded people. Te Reo – is there a member/s who could form a group to learn the language.

“Creating easy one person meals or where to buy healthy, reasonably priced take home meals”. Many of us who live on our own would appreciate ideas on who offers best value. A small group of 6-8 could get together at a home and go out on surveys to create a list for members, maybe share recipe ideas. We could have an item in the Newsletter next time from the group. Contact the Secretary, Trish Loye with your comments and ideas. All welcome.

Some of our existing groups are struggling for members due to declining health or location no longer viable. Please support your group and encourage new members to join or help with the organisation of group meetings.

Geography with Max Farquhar is currently in recess due to lack of attendance, and also Max would like someone to take over the group. Let's all help keep this going.

Remarkable People now has Warren Petrie as the Convener, but only 2-3 members are attending. Is this your interest, would you like to join? Please let Trish know.

Garden Group with Laurel Collins has many members but we need ideas of gardens or locations to visit. Laurel would also like some help with emailing out to members, so if one of the Garden group members has these computer skills please let Laurel or Trish Loye know. Help will be given if you are not sure of procedures.

U3A/SeniorNet

Our liaison with SeniorNet has been very successful with regular meetings at the Arohanui Church Centre at 81 Middle Rd, Havelock North, with drop in sessions every Monday from 1pm to 3pm. Tea, coffee and a biscuit are provided free of charge, so come along and see what we do.

The Photo book course with Marion Crawford is very popular with the opportunity to create a unique and interesting Coffee Table Photo Book or a Special Family Gift for a loved one. To register for future sessions you can email Marion at themeadowseighty@outlook.com

The iPhone and Android cellphone sessions on a Monday afternoon are proving to be popular and informative in learning what you can do with your smartphone. Is your cellphone/smartphone clogged with a log of old phone calls, texts and emails? Come and learn how to delete these to improve the memory of your phone. Did you know that you can create a shopping list through an App on your phone, add to it when your pantry runs out of an item and have your phone list at your fingertips when shopping at the Supermarket or stores? Come along to our sessions and learn about this useful Shopping App. A monthly newflash from U3A/SeniorNet will be sent to members to keep you up to date on weekly meetings and classes. Mark the dates on your cell phone calendar and you will never miss a lesson.

Recent Bereavement



Christl Boys – Member since 2007

Dec'd May 2023

Christl was an active member of our Looking at Art group and will be sadly missed by family and fellow members.

Our committee for 2023

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