HAVELOCK NORTH



NOVEMBER

NEWSLETTER

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Best Wishes to you all.

Spring progresses with all the blossom out at present and we are promised a hot summer with just the right amount of rain I hope. Looking back at 2023 it has been a tumultuous year with Cyclone Gabrielle being the most expensive natural weather event in N.Z. history. Also down came the rain and by June we had had the equivalent of our annual rainfall.

Our U3A has had a good year. We have cemented a good working relationship with SeniorNet who have a team with experience of cell phones and Apple devices and a Monday drop-in centre. Our membership has significantly increased as has our communication with Retirement Villages and our liaison members (Robin, Colleen, Jocelyn and Christine) are great assets. In the New Year we will be promoting a course on "Retaining your drivers Licence" with Colleen and Margaret Buckley at Summerset in Ada Street.

The committee have been putting the final touches to our new constitution as required by the 2022 Incorporated Societies Act with new clauses on Conflict Resolution. Mediation and Privacy. I have also included some changes to our committee structure. This is to reduce the tremendous load we have been putting on our amazing Secretary Trish Loye who has been carrying the majority of the organisation of the U3A single handed. Also, instead of all the U3A's data, membership, payments, groups etc. being stored on a flash drive in a drawer I have created a Google Storage Drive in the "Cloud" so it can never be lost. As for the Committee I have looked towards spreading the workload to nominated Committee Members who will have small but very pertinent roles that will not be difficult to manage and will ensure back-up and continuity in the future. This is the proposal in the new committee structure to be voted in at the February AGM.

- President
- Secretary
- Minute Secretary & Assistant to the Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant to the Treasurer
- Functions Officer for U3A meetings
- ➤ Village Liaison Officer
- Senior Net Representative
- Plus two other representatives.

I sincerely hope that members will think how they may help to continue the valuable work of our U3A. If you do think that you could take on a role and you could help please contact me or Trish and we will certainly support you with any training needed.

Group activities are at our core where we connect with like-minded people. This can be across a variety of activities whether it be Learning new skills, Technology, Games, News & Current Affairs, Travel, Hobbies, Pets, Poems, music, Reminisces, Photography, holidays, food and recipes, music, books and anything else that you wish to discuss. We do need to cater for members and increase our groups. If you have an enthusiastic interest in any subject and could possibly share an afternoon a month to just start a group please contact our Secretary Trish. There could be several people waiting for that opportunity.

Finally my best wishes to you all over the coming holiday period. Talk to people you meet about our U3A and how we support our seniors. I hope that you can catch up with family and friends in the festive season and also connect with nearby neighbours who may not have family and would love to see you.

Norris Kenwright - President, U3A Havelock North 2023

Our Christmas General Meeting will be held on Thursday
23rd November, 2023
at the Havelock North Function Centre, Te Mata Road,
Havelock North commencing at 10am.
Come along and enjoy a morning of entertainment provided
by our own group activities, light refreshment and chat with
your friends.



Many thanks to Pure Caterers for providing us with their excellent Xmas themed morning tea menu and this has been subsidised by our Committee, Members and Guests only pay \$10.00 per person as you enter.

Please advise Trish by 21st November if you wish to attend.

Subscriptions and group fees for 2024 are now due from November onwards.

Enrolment forms and a new group list are attached with this newsletter If you wish to pay your subs at the Xmas meeting please have this separate to your entrance fee with a completed enrolment form for our records. Payments can also be paid online to our U3A bank account as per your enrolment form. Please enter your name & group numbers in the reference lines. Please note that all subs and fees are due by the end of March 2024.

Many thanks for your co-operation.



Reports from some of our groups and Convenors:

Computing – with Norris Kenwright and Margaret Buckley

It is remarkable how computing has changed with the technology of smart phones and very few desktops are being sold. SeniorNet are now running valuable sessions on cell phones on a Monday afternoon at the Arohanui hall. With the variety of cell phones, individual help or small groups are essential. Our latest computer group has recently been demonstrating how to personalise your own Cards, Newsletters, Calendars and cups. Next year will be a change in focus to group meetings on laptops and solving your own personal problems for our normal venue is now closing on Tuesday mornings. More details will be coming later.









Writing for Fun Group2 - Chris Phillips

We have six members and each has their own distinct writing project that they're working on, although several have gone off on lengthy travels this winter. Our group is particularly fortunate to have an experienced and skilled writer who is happy to provide input and feedback if members would like it, and of course, we do! We meet on



the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings at the Havelock North library and would love to have new members.

<u>Travel Group – Chris Phillips</u>



We have fourteen members - serial travellers, annual travellers, and armchair travellers who've opted for clipping their travel wings and a member who's been a professional tour guide. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month with members taking turns where possible to host the meeting. The host gives a travel talk and is free to present this in any way they like. We always welcome new members.

Geology Group with Norris Kenwright

We have had a small but very interested group and over the year and covered a wide and variety of rocks, minerals and geological forces. Last session was a visit to Napier on a field trip to walk along the foreshore at Ahuriri examining the rocks and minerals deposited from the Hawkes Bay hills. This was followed by a visit to the "Crystal Sanctuary" in Napier where they have a magnificent display of mineral from all over the



world and huge Amethyst Geodes. Some of the group came to the meeting of the Hawkes Bay Lapidary and Mineral society where I gave a talk on Zealandia.

New group -

Planes, Trains and Automobiles with Peter Watt.

This group will be having their first meeting on Friday 17th November at 10 am and we would love some more members to come along.

Please phone Trish 878-5920 or Peter on 021 2830377 to register your attendance and venue details.



URGENT – URGENT – URGENT

We have several Conveners retiring from their positions at the end of this year therefore I am requesting that participants in those groups get together, have a chat and decide the direction you would like your group to take for 2024. Perhaps you could appoint a spokesperson or appoint a leader, you could share and take turns to decide on a topic each month, meet in each other's homes, choose a lunch destination, whatever is relevant to your particular group. All ideas can be discussed with the group or refer to the Secretary, Trish Loye for further suggestions.

Please do not let these go into recess, your present Conveners have put a lot of effort into organizing these for you over the years and deserve to be congratulated and their efforts be rewarded by your continuation to participate.

Art Interest Group - 2nd Thursday @ 9.30 (Linda Ryan)

<u>Contemporary NZ Art</u> - 3rd Wednesday at 1.30. Incorporating visits to Art galleries. (Kathe Huse).

Geography Group – 1st Thursday at 10 am. (Max Farquhar)

<u>Lunch Group4</u> – 1st Friday at 12.30 pm. Rosemary Duff is temporary Convener

Please contact Trish with any suggestions and ideas to keep these groups active.

Our Sympathy and Condolences are extended to the families and friends of members who have recently passed away.

Caroline Moorhead (Ingle) Member since 2003 d.24.8.2023 was Convenor for Looking at Art Thurs2 group.

Peter Egerton Member since 2012 d.31.8.2023 was an active member of the Computer Group and Photo Interest.

Valerie Daysh Member since 2012 d. 1.10.2023 was active in several groups.

Dale Ruddick (Brown, Jackson) Member since 2004 d.14.10.2023

Dale was Secretary from 2006 to 2011 and a Convenor of Genealogy, Card making & Lunch Group 4

All will be sadly missed from their activities.

Our committee for 2023

Norris Kenwright (President) 877 8412rita-norris@xtra.co.nz Trish Loye (Secretary) 878 5920 pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz Jenny Hartley (Treasurer) 873 7970 mjenhartley@gmail.com Margaret Buckley 844 6393.....gmbuckley@xtra.co.nz Gary Clark 877 0024.....clarks2hb@gmail.com Eileen Harris 870 1649eileenequest@gmail.com Robin Nairn 0272 925001.....loisandrobinnairn@gmail.com Ian Brown 021 655288iwbrown0344@gmail.com (SeniorNet representative)

On behalf of the President and Committee we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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