

# HAVELOCK NORTH



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## Greetings to you all,

Today on the radio news, I heard of the concerns expressed by the Educators in our schools, of the low levels of literacy and numeracy amongst the children. It is a very real concern and one that could affect the future of our country. I felt not only concern but also sadness for the children who have difficulty with reading or cannot read. They are missing one of life's most wonderful experiences. The joy of reading is something that cannot be described as it is something that someone needs to experience to understand how it feels.

We are a family of readers and one of my earliest childhood memories is reading each evening before bed – firstly with our parents and as we grew older, each of us reading a book before going to sleep. We were not allowed to read comic books. A visit to a library or a bookstore was a time of great excitement. Books, to me are still very precious things with great opportunities to learn new things about different peoples, countries, cultures and creeds.

Our grandchildren are readers as well and I do enjoy the special times when we sit together reading the children's books. I love the underlying messages in the children's story books, and I am gradually getting used to the words that we were never allowed to utter when I was younger. Oh, how times have changed – it is not better, it is not worse, it is simply different.

Like many of you today, I was taught at school in the era of 'reading, writing and arithmetic.' Reading was an important part of the homework each night and we were all encouraged to read our chosen book. Sometimes we were assessed on it the next day. I hope there will be similar opportunities for every child.

There are groups in our community who have not only concerns about the children who are 'non-readers' but also a genuine desire to assist with teaching them to read. There is a 'Grandparents' reading group helping at a local primary school here in Havelock North. Each week these dedicated retired folk meet with the children and enjoy the one-on-one time while they read their books. I have had the opportunity to help with the reading on several occasions and thought it an extremely rewarding experience. The children are delightful.

If any of you do get an opportunity to help instruct the children of our community to read, I am sure you too, will find it an immense joy. You will also be helping our children to enjoy a better future.

***A quote from Confucius (551-479B.C.)***

***I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand.***

***Sue Pollard – President, U3A Havelock North***

**U3A Havelock North**

**May General Meeting and Coffee Morning**

**to be held at the Havelock North Function Centre**

**Thursday 19 May 2022 at 10.00 a.m.**

**Our Speaker will be**

*Annemarie Rawson*

*Annemarie will give a talk on her life and adventures when living in*

*France and London.*

**\$5.00 per person payable at the door  
(this has been subsidised by your committee)**

**Spot raffle prizes for members and friends.**

**Please do let Trish Loye know before the 17<sup>th</sup> May  
if you are coming along to the meeting.**

**Phone: 878 5920**

**Email: [pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz](mailto:pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz)**

**Covid requirements – we are no longer restricted for numbers so please register to attend. You must wear a mask when arriving until checked in, once seated may be removed, except when leaving the room for any reason.**

**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 required.**

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Introducing our speaker:-

Annemarie Rawson is a New Zealander who collects new ‘best friends’ wherever she goes. In her 50’s she and her husband, Steve, packed up the house, rented it out, kissed her family and friends goodbye and moved 12,000 km to South West France (near Toulouse) to work as estate managers for several private families — swapping corporate, city life for animal husbandry and the French countryside.



Annemarie loves people, animals, travelling, interior design and creating delicious food to welcome people into her home and at her table.

After a stint back in New Zealand, Annemarie decided (at 60) it was time for another adventure and did exactly the same thing, packing up the house but this time moving to London. Two and a half years later they have explored more of London than some Londoners and have bounced around the UK and parts of Europe, capturing it all in photos and blogs.

Nowadays, you can find Annemarie living back in New Zealand in the beautiful village of Havelock North in Hawke’s Bay.

Annemarie has written two books “My French Platter” & “My French Platter Replenished” on her experiences and will have some of these books on display for sale at our meeting.

They will be \$29 for one or \$55 for two. Cash only please

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### **GROUP NEWS AND UPDATES – MAY 2022**

#### **Basic Computer Group**

We had heard that there was a need for a group that wanted to learn computer skills in Windows 10 from scratch and this has proved to be the case with a full group of 20 and a waiting list.

We cover topics such as managing your files and folders, editing and improving photos and downloading them from your cell phone and cameras. Also how to download & play music and video files. Emailing, Word documents and saving your files safely in the cloud are also covered.

The 10 session course will end in mid-June and already there have been requests for a repeat and extension of the course. If you are considering attending a new group please contact Margaret for details.

Norris Kenwright 877-8412 or Margaret Buckley 844-6393

[rita-norris@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rita-norris@xtra.co.nz) or [gmbuckley@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gmbuckley@xtra.co.nz)



## Geology

I am now considering re-starting a Geology group which will commence from basic knowledge and interest in the near future and may have a couple of places available for those who are interested. Please contact me if you wish to have more information.



Norris Kenwright 877-8412 [rita-norris@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rita-norris@xtra.co.nz)

## Geography Group – Convener, Max Farquhar

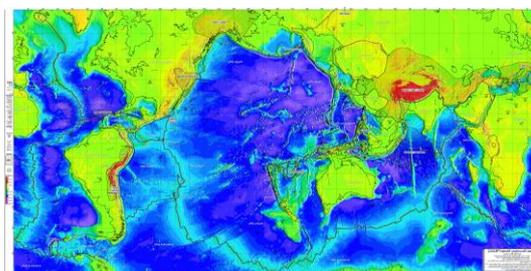
This group has some vacancies if you would like to come along and share your interest and knowledge of various countries in our universe.

The group meets on the first Thursday of the Month, and two members give a presentation of 20 minutes to half an hour on a subject of their choice. This can be a country or region, commenting on its physical characteristics, industry, population demographics, climate etc,



or, as of recent times, one of earth's defining features such as the Great Rift Valley in East Africa, or the Panama Canal construction.

Our May meeting will feature a South American country, and Plate Tectonics, the study of processes affecting the Earth's crust.



The more members we have, the less frequently they are called on to present a subject.

If these fascinating topics appeal to you, please contact our Secretary, Trish Loye on 878-5920 or by email to register your interest and obtain more details on venue, day and time etc.

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**Just a reminder that all enquiries for groups, membership and general enquiries should be directed to our Secretary, Trish Loye.**

**Phone: 878-5920 or email: [pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz](mailto:pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz)**

**Note – all subscriptions and course fees should have been received by the end of March in order to retain your membership of U3A Havelock North and qualify to attend your groups. A reminder email was sent out to all overdue members in late March. If any member has not renewed by now, please forward your subscription to the Secretary as soon as possible. Thank you.**

**Our committee for 2022**

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End note: Do check out our Website for information on our groups and upcoming events.

