

HAVELOCK NORTH



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Secretary: Trish Loye 878 5920 pals.bkh@xtra.co.nz
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Welcome to our first newsletter of the U3A year for 2015 with news and updates from some of our groups, and information on our next Coffee morning on the 14th May

From our President:

Basking in the warmth of March ended abruptly in the middle of April when the winter woollies were hastily rediscovered to fend off the winter blast. Thankfully U3A groups continue, in spite of the weather, and offer friendship and fellowship and knowledge to keep our brain cells active.

We currently have 328 members and 34 groups with only a small waiting list; however we do need to have new groups evolving to maintain interest and provide stimulus. If you have a specific interest and would like to share it in a group situation with 4 or 5 others why not let your committee know and we can put the word out and encourage it to happen. Wishing everyone a happy healthy season – remember it is flu jab time for those who wish to avail themselves of this service.

Joan Sye ----- President, Havelock North U3A

Our next General Meeting and Coffee Morning will be held on **Thursday 14th May, 2015 at 10am** at the Havelock North Function Centre. (See our notice on Page 3). A resumé of our speaker is set out below:

Franki James is a member of the *Taradale U3A* for which she is a French tutor as well as the Convenor for the *Napier Secondary Schools Speech Competition* sponsored by the *Taradale U3A*.

A retired journalist, Franki is a frequent participant on the talk circuit in Hawke's Bay. Recently she helped a disabled lady write a book about herself entitled "Don't Call Me Stupid!"

The story that Franki is going to recount will doubtless bring a tear to your eye but it will also make you laugh because, despite everything, her friend has retained an infectious sense of humour. Hopefully, it will make you angry that the situation in which her friend found herself could still exist in New Zealand in this day and age. But, above all, it is an uplifting story, showing how the human spirit can win through in spite of adversity.

I am sure this will be an interesting and informative talk by Franki.

Please notify our Secretary, Trish Loye of your intention to attend the meeting on or before Tuesday 12th May in order that we can advise the caterers of our numbers.

Phone: 878-5920 or Email: pals.bkh@xtra.co.nz

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Notes from some our Groups.

Shakespeare group: Convenor, Joan Sye.

We meet at Havelock North High School from 4 until 6 pm. We have fun understanding the works of Shakespeare under the tutelage of Ken Keys. Differing perspectives are aired and snapshots of the plays are performed – dramatically of course! We have 9 members at present.

Lunch group 3: Convenor, Joan Sye

We have 22 members in our lunch group and have sampled a variety of venues for our lunch. My group is adventurous and happy to go Thai, Indian or plain old roast. There is always a happy buzz of chat and everyone is friendly. Name tags help the integration of new members.

U3A Havelock North

May General Meeting

To be held at the Havelock North Function Centre

Thursday 14th May 2015 at 10.00 a.m.

We are fortunate to have an excellent speaker

Franki James

From Taradale U3A who recently helped a disabled lady
write a book about herself entitled
“Don’t Call Me Stupid!”

Franki will tell the story of her journey with humour
and courage.

\$10.00 p.p. payable at the door
Includes morning tea
Spot raffle prizes for members.

The caterers need numbers so if you are coming please ring or
email our secretary by Tuesday 12th May

**Trish Loye - Phone 878 5920 or
Email: pals.bkh@xtra.co.nz**

Recent Bereavements

Dawn and John Thomson

8 years ago, Dawn and John Thomson were foundation members of the U3A Geography group. Despite the ups and downs of Dawn's health, they were always willing to offer their home for meetings, to prepare presentations and to take a lively part in the annual Geography quiz. All members of the group were sad to hear of Dawn's death on 14 February and John's death just 3 weeks and 3 days later on 10 March. They were a much loved couple who will be sadly missed by their family and friends.

Dawn and John were also members of the Travel Group and Dawn in the Jazz group.

Brian Butler

Brian Butler was a long standing member of the Classic Music Video group and in conjunction with Wendy Wilks had held the meetings at his home over a number of years. Brian passed away in late February and will be sadly missed within the group. At their March meeting Wendy advised that they played a lovely DVD recording Brian had given her of "B Minor Mass" in Notre Dame Paris and then some of "Marriage of Figaro" with Cecilia Bartoli. This was a lovely meeting of remembrance and gratitude for all the afternoons they have had together with Brian.

Agnes Bray

Agnes was a well liked member of the Wednesday Book group, and passed away at 92 years of age on April 16th. She was a very independent character and took part in several other groups within U3A over the years.

Our sincere condolences and sympathy go out to all who have suffered a loss of a friend, family member or loved one in recent times.

Hold on to your memories, and let them guide you during this time of sadness.

Our committee for 2015

Joan Sye (President).....	876 9380	joan.sye@xtra.co.nz
Trish Loye (Secretary).....	878 5920	pals.bkh@xtra.co.nz
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Garth Thornton.....	877 5343.....	gartht@xtra.co.nz
David Ward.....	877 7518	dave_ward@clear.net.nz

Further group news:

Lunch Group 2 – Convenor, Trish Loye.

We are a happy group of 12, and have enjoyed some interesting venues for our lunch meetings. Recently we went to Ahuriri and had a very enjoyable Seniors Lunch for \$15 including dessert!! With a fabulous view of the Inner Harbour on a lovely warm autumn day, this made for a lovely setting to enjoy our lunch.



Classic Music Video group – Convenor, Wendy Wilks.

We are fortunate in that the Group as from 5th May will meet in the Hall of J.H. Mason Village, on Durham Drive, at the usual time of 1.30pm on the first Tuesday of each month with Scott Marryatt choosing the programme.

There is a large TV so DVDs and Videos can be played. We ask members if they have any recordings we could play, although we have a few to be going on with! Although our group is now full a waiting list will apply for future enquiries.

Scrabble : Convenor, Joan Sye.

We have 12 in our group of varying ability with words, but it is true “practice makes perfect” and my new members have quickly settled in and gained confidence.

All our groups are flourishing but we would welcome suggestions and ideas for new groups and people willing to be Convenors. All help and mentoring in the running of an interest group can be supplied through our committee members. It is very important to keep our U3A moving forward into the future and to impart *your* knowledge and skill in any specialist subject would be appreciated.

If you have any recommendations, suggestions, queries and updates to your groups, please contact our Secretary, Trish Loye at any time. Thank you.



Congratulations to Marnie and Richard Mackesy on celebrating their 70th Wedding Anniversary recently. They have both contributed to U3A in many ways over the past 16 years or more. Marnie was the Convenor of Historic Houses and Gardens for many years and still takes part in all group meetings. Richard has attended the Computer Group for many years and is now studying Geology in Norris Kenwright’s group. May they both continue to enjoy good health and participate in U3A in the years to come.

I have received the following notice from **Mt Albert U3A** in Auckland regarding a group tour to China later in the year. If any of our members are interested please contact Trish Loye and I can send you out a PDF flyer with more information. As this notice arrived in March I am not sure what vacancies there are, but enquiries are welcome.

CHINA HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER 9—28 2015, 19 days in China, fully escorted

There are still vacancies for the 'China Highlights' tour, October 9-28 this year. Designed specifically for U3A members, this tour visits key 'must see' sites as well as enhancing understanding of various aspects of Chinese culture and society. Four destinations have been selected to give diverse and in depth experiences of China old and new. Led by Dave Bromwich, President of the NZ China Friendship Society aided by the very capable and delightful Chinese guide Wang Fang. Full details from dbchinz@xtra.co.nz or phone one of last year's participants, either Wendy Jeffrey 09 5756401 or Elizabeth Sadler 09 6206175

Elizabeth Sadler, Secretary. Mt Albert U3A

Other local U3As

As a member of the Havelock North U3A, you are eligible to join groups held by other U3As in our area provided that they have vacancies in the course you require. Details of courses run by Hastings U3A can be obtained from their website: www.u3ahastings.org.nz
Courses for Taradale U3A may be obtained from their Secretary, Joan Fitzmaurice
Ph: 835 5510 or Email: joanfitz@xtra.co.nz

Please, just a reminder that all course, membership and general enquiries should be directed to our Secretary, Trish Loye.

Also, all subscriptions and course fees should have been received by the end of March in order to retain membership of U3A and qualify to attend your groups. If any member has not renewed by now, please forward your subscription to the Secretary as soon as possible.



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