



# [Havelock North Inc.]

## Newsletter June 2010



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Hi Everyone,

It was a shock to return from a sunny week in Auckland to a rather cold and wet Hawkes Bay. Winter has started to inform us that it is around the corner and is warning us to stock up on warm clothes, hot soup and fuel until Spring comes around once more.

However we have good news about our warm and inviting annual Mid-Winter luncheon on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June. Just look at the section below for more details. The cost will be \$25 for financial members and places will be limited so book early. Hilary Stott, our speaker, has travelled on an amazing variety of ships and will give an illustrated talk on her travels.



We are now in the usual mid election blitz of reforms as politicians pass controversial legislation so that they can be very nice to us as the election approaches and hope for short memories. I hope that the GST rise will be adequately compensated for us retirees.

The "three strikes and your out" policy has liberals incensed that it will raise the prison population. It is seen as a small step to reassure the public that the justice system is taking account of their fears. While there is a continuing need for rehabilitation and training there is concern that we have one of the highest rate of recidivism in the Western world.

The budget hit smokers hard in the pocket and whilst smoking is bad for your personal health, you do have a choice, which is not the case as being hit by a driver under influence of drink.



The government appear to be very nervous about the report findings of the Law Commission's Liquor Review presented by Sir Geoffrey Palmer. Alcohol and over indulgence are the cause of so many financial problems, abuse, crime, road accidents with devastation to innocent families.

It appears that the government is reluctant to make decisions that the majority of NZ's want and that the economic lobby and fear of irritating the young voters is paramount.

Too often you hear of ordinary families travelling the highways, obeying the law, and being written off by a driver under the influence. The excuses are quite unbelievable- the roads were wet – so you drive to the conditions; I was tired –so you stop and rest; and the latest I heard – I was stressed about my leaky home!!! Remorse comes too easily, especially if it means a reduction of sentence, but victims are not so lucky.

And the old chestnut of the Emissions Trading Scheme is back on the agenda with its start on the 1<sup>st</sup> July. We are the only country in the world to tax its citizens on carbon credits while other nations put them on hold. What a dreadful industrialised polluting country we are, does this belie our green clean image?



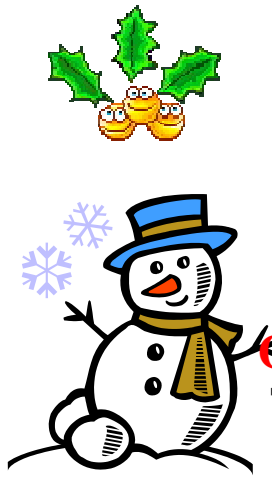
It is worth noting that the Icelandic volcano has pumped out more carbon dioxide in a month than the whole of Europe in a year and volcanoes in

Guatemala and the Philippines have also started up. Is nature having a little joke on us? Surprisingly too a survey published in today's Dominion reports that the land mass of Pacific islands are growing not shrinking.



Oh Dear, too much for me for now, I will sign off before becoming too depressed and have another glass of wine and fly a plane. The opposite way around I think. Keep warm and safe, be happy, don't smoke, drink in moderation and I will see you at the Mid-Winter luncheon.

Cheers  
 Norris Kenwright (President)



# Mid-Winter Luncheon

## Tuesday 29th June



**Havelock North Community Centre**

**Opening at 11.30 am and to be seated by 12 Noon**

**The cost of the luncheon is \$25 for financial members of the Havelock North U3A and \$27.50 for Guests**

**This is a Buffet meal with Roast beef, Crumbed fish and Butter chicken and rice with the usual vegetables. Deserts will include Sticky Date pudding, Trifle and fresh fruit salad plus tea and coffee and mince pies. There will be a bar available to buy drinks.**

**NOTE: - If you do have to cancel due to unforeseen circumstances we will refund the full amount of your booking if you let us know by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June so we have time to inform the caterers. Because of limited numbers we will not be accepting last minute payments at the door.**

**All payments must be made to the Secretary by Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

**Numbers are limited so please book early. Send your remittance to the Secretary**

**Dale Jackson, 2 Fulford Place. Havelock North, 4130 or**

**Havelock North U3A, P.O Box 8475, Havelock North**

*A form is attached on page 5*

**Please phone the Secretary 877-6221 or President 877-8412 if necessary**

**Speaker; Hilary Stott**

**"Sailing"**

**Hilary has sailed extensively and has travelled through the Norwegian Fiords; around the Mediterranean on Clippers; on a Felucca on the Nile and on Chairman Mao's boat on the Yangtze River. Also after crossing the Atlantic on the Queen Elizabeth, Hilary flew back on Concorde.**



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### At our last Meeting

Geoff Small of "Geoff Small Electronic" gave us the run down on the **FreeView, TiVo and Sky** television options. Geoff also brought along one of the latest High Definition Televisions and the quality and clarity was remarkable.

Of course there are some costs involved for **Sky** with the most channels has a monthly cost of just over \$65 dollars per month if you want My Sky with the ability to record two channels while watching a third channel. However if the box is faulty they will replace it.

**TiVo** boxes, which you buy with a year's guarantee, cost about \$700 and can record up to 250 hours of TV and record a second channel. They also have the advantage of being able to stop a program that is running and then start it again at the same point after a delay.

**FreeView**, which has a smaller number of channels, can be accessed via a UHF aerial or satellite dish has a recorder which you can buy for about \$600. It is able to record two channels as well as the one you watch.

Thanks to Geoff we were able to gain some insight of these options and I am sure that he will be able to answer many more of your questions from his base in Miller Street, Hastings.

## **From around the Groups** - Thank you for your comments

### **Music on Video**

Music on Video meets at 29 Tainui Drive, the home of Wendy Wilks, on the first Tuesday of each month at 1.30. We continue to enjoy the selection Brian Butler makes from his vast collection of recordings and the conversation that ensues. There is room for one or two more members. Anybody wishing to come should ring either Brian 877 9312 or Wendy 877 6611.



### **Looking at Art**

As the Convenor of Looking at Art Thursday Group 2 I am letting you know what we have been up to. We started this year with Vermeer followed by more early Dutch artists. In April and May we have been looking at works by the 16th and 17th century French artists de la Tour, Poussin and Claude Lorraine. As a group we have lively and interesting discussions with Hugh and appreciate his enthusiasm and knowledge.  
Caroline Ingle



### **Contemporary NZ Art**

Our group is following the very successful formulae from last year. We visit exhibitions and Roy Dunningham Talks us through the exhibits. His vast knowledge and infectious enthusiasm brings the Art alive for us.

### **Jazz Group**

We have now grown in number to 15 enthusiasts. We meet monthly at our Tutor's Neil Totty's Napier home. Neil plays a wide range of CD.s with music new to most of us. Being a very accomplished pianist he also plays to demonstrate the finer points. Lot's of fun and information.----Barbara Holland



### **U3A Art Appreciation Group.**

Sadly our tutor for the last three years, Warren Clode, has retired. We decided, at the end of last year, to continue with contributions from within the group as well as the occasional guest speaker. Fortunately Roy Dunningham has agreed to take two sessions and Warren to return for one. We met in February to discuss our programme for the year and watched two short recorded programmes on Turner. Last month we had a session, given by Graeme Dreadon, on Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema. He was a Dutch painter who spent most of his life in London and became famous for his paintings with classical themes. This month Roy Dunningham is to speak to us on 'Art in Context'.



We meet on the second Thursday of each month in each others homes from 9.30am - 11.30am. Currently we have two on our waiting list who join us whenever there is an apology.-----Athalie Dreadon

### **Computer Group**

We continue to have enthusiastic sessions at the Havelock North Bridge Club with a large crowd on the second and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month. Sylvia Franklin has been leading through Microsoft Word and Norris has been demonstrating editing using Adobe Photoshop Elements. Tony has been providing a wide variety of websites and usually manages to solve everyone's computer problems. There are always questions on how to use your computer to the best advantage and keeping all the viruses and malware at bay. The Telecom 3G broadband link via a "T Stick" is working well and gives us a very fast broadband connection via the telephone network---Norris K.

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"I think you're spending too much time on the computer. Your fingers move when you talk."



## New Course – Starting in July Philosophy

Graeme Davidson is keen to convene the philosophy course for the next term on a **Wednesday morning at 10:00**. Graeme is a highly qualified with postgraduate degrees in psychology, theology and philosophy from Victoria and Oxford Universities and has written popular books on these topics.

The topics are:

1. **Straight and twisted thinking**
2. **What is real?**
3. **Can we know anyone's mind?**
4. **Do we have free will?**
5. **Does God exist?**
6. **Is there life after death?**
7. **Deciding what is right and wrong**

The discussion Group can have up to 15 members and will meet at Graeme's home in Tauroa Road, Havelock North. Please contact our Secretary Dale Jackson if you wish to attend the course. For more information you can contact Graeme at 877- 6749

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### My Next Life by Woody Allen

In my next life I want to live backwards. You start out dead and get that out of the way.

Then you wake up in an old peoples home and get better every day.

You get kicked out for being too healthy and go and collect you pension. Then when you start work, you get a gold watch and have a party on your first day.

You work for forty years with increasingly less responsibility until you are young enough to leave work.

You party, drink alcohol and are generally promiscuous until you are ready for high school.

You then go to primary school, become a kid, you play and have no responsibilities.

You become a baby until you are born. Then you spend your last nine months floating in luxurious spa like conditions with central heating and room service on tap in larger quarters every day.

Then Voila! You finish up as a twinkle in your parents eye and Wow!

I rest my case.



### The Teacher's Pet

On a special teacher's day, a kindergarten teacher was receiving gifts from her pupils. The florist's son handed her a gift. She shook it, held it over her head and said, "I bet I know what it is.

**Flowers!**" she said. "That's right!" said the boy, "but how did you know"? "Just a wild guess," she said.

The next pupil was the candy store owner's daughter. The teacher held her gift over head, shook it and said, "I bet I can guess what it is, **a box of chocolates!**"

"That's right! But how did you know"? Asked the girl.

"Just a lucky guess," said the teacher.

The next gift was from the liquor store owner's son. The teacher held the bag over her head and noticed that it was leaking. She touched a drop of the leakage with her finger and tasted it. "Is it **wine**"? She asked

"No," the boy replied. The teacher repeated the process, touching another drop of the leakage to her tongue. "Is it **champagne**"? She asked.

"No," the boy replied.

The teacher then said, "I give up, what is it"?

The boy replied, "A puppy!"



**Correct Diet** Can't eat pork → Swine flu..... Can't eat chicken → Bird flu. .... Can't eat Beef, → Mad cow disease..... Can't eat eggs, → Salmonella. .... Can't eat Tuna & fish, → heavy metal poisons in their waters. .... Can't eat fruits and veggies, → insecticides and herbicides.



**Hmmmmmmmm!!!!!!**  
**I believe that leaves Chocolate and Ice cream!!!!!!**  
**Remember - - - 'STRESSED'**  
**Spelled backwards! is**  
**'DESSERTS'**



Cheers N. Kenwright (Editor)

**U3A Havelock North**



**Mid-Winter Luncheon**

**Havelock North Community Centre: Tuesday June 29<sup>th</sup> 2010**

Opening at 11.30 a.m. and to be seated by 12 noon

**Havelock North U3A Members: \$25.00, Guests: \$27.50**

Due to limited numbers the Luncheon must be paid for by Thursday, June 24th 2010.

Please **print** the names of those attending and a contact telephone number.

Include your payment and **give or send** it to: - **The Secretary, Mrs Dale Jackson**

**PO Box 8475, Havelock North or 2 Fulford Place, Havelock North, 4130**

**For more information phone Dale at 877-6221 or Norris at 877-8412**

Name(s) .....Phone.....

.....Phone.....

.....Phone.....

.....Phone.....

Total Enclosed \$.....

N. Kenwright (President)